

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 105-118 and 130-143 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Schubert in view of Yalamanchili and OrCad.

Without acceding to the rejections, independent Claims 105 and 130 have been amended substantially along the lines suggested by the Examiner to overcome the asserted rejections. For example, Claim 105 as amended now additionally recites that the computer system comprises means for indirectly connecting components whose parts are not directly connectable, the means being connected head-to-tail between said components.

It is apparent that the applied references fail to teach or suggest at least the above recited features of Claim 105, as acknowledged by the Office Action on page 3.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 105 distinguishes patentably from the applied references.

Furthermore, independent Claim 130 now also recites inserting intermediate components connected head-to-tail between components whose parts are not directly connectable to indirectly connect said components.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 130 also distinguishes patentably from the applied references for at least the same reasons as discussed above with respect to Claim 105.

The remaining claims are also believed to be patentable due to their respective dependence from independent Claims 105 and 130, as well as for the additional features recited in the remaining claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is necessary to place this application in better form for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

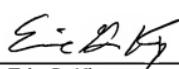
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T2147-908626) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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